

**District VI Advisory Board
Minutes
www.wichita.gov**

**Monday
May 4, 2009
6:30 p.m.**

**Evergreen Recreation Center
2700 N. Woodland
Lounge Clubroom**

The District VI Advisory Board meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Recreation Center Lounge Clubroom 2700 N. Woodland. The First Pro-Tem led the meeting with ten (10) District Advisory Board members in attendance, seven (7) city staff and eleven (11) members of the public who signed in.

Members Present

C. Bickley Foster
Charlie Claycomb
Carol Skaff
Jaya Escobar
Bob Schreck
Bob Wine
Pat Randleas
John VanWalleghen
Bob Aldrich
Marsha Carr

Members Absent

Staff Present

Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Sharp, Patrol North
Officer Davidson, Patrol West
Chief Ast, Fire
Officer Schwiethale, Patrol South
Officer Burnett, Patrol North
Shawn Mellies, Public Works

Guests

Listed at end

First Pro-Tem Marsha Carr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. welcoming everyone and asked members to introduce themselves and state their representation on the board.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for April 6, 2009 were approved as submitted. (Skaff/Claycomb 9-0)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted. (Skaff/Claycomb 9-0)

Public Agenda

1. **Scheduled items:** None at this time
2. **Off-agenda items:** None at this time

*******Action:** Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Report

Patrol West: *Officer Davidson* stated speeding had increased along 13th/West/Hoover. Officers were ticketing speeders with some arrests made and they will continue to monitor this activity. There have been youth seen smoking and fighting outside of Orchard Park. Police will be using a work station in the Orchard Park recreational center. We have seen an increase in larcenies on 11 Beat near the apartment complexes. Since our last report we started a special assignment on this to try and decrease the problem.

Aldrich said on behalf of the Orchard Park Neighborhood Association he wanted to thank the church for cleaning out the skate park area.

Patrol South: *Officer Schwiethale* said officers would be on bike patrol in Old Town and for Riverfest. We want to thank the Old Town Business Association for the new banner we now have in front of our Community Police Office. We have seen an increase in larcenies to autos and have made some arrests due to citizens calling in seeing suspicious characters. All the individuals were homeless including some teenagers. *Schwiethale* included he was working with the Homeless Committee and hopes to see some changes soon. **Carr** asked if the teenage homeless problem was due to them aging out of foster care. *Schwiethale* said he was not sure but the committee will be releasing numbers from the survey taken for the *Point in Time Count* and we can take a closer look at that then.

Aldrich asked about the security for River Festival activities. *Schwiethale* stated there would not be as many City Of Wichita Police this year to cover River Festival activities but other security would be used. We will still have our SWAT team or Special Forces available if needed. **Aldrich** stated that other agencies are not able to enforce City ordinances.

Escobar arrived at 6:40 p.m.

Patrol North: *Officer Sharp* 48 Beat said the stats show there is a decrease in crime but we have seen an increase in robberies. Two-thirds of businesses along 21st Street have been robbed including some high-way robberies. We were able to make some arrests and since then the robberies have decreased. Officers have been working with the area youth due to some problems that have taken place here in Evergreen Park. *Sharp* then introduced *Officer Chad Burnett* 49 Beat who is new to the area.

Aldrich asked about the Ohio Street/Bridgeport area where drag racing has been taking place. *Sharp* responded he was aware of this and officers are working a special assignment on this but racers are hard to catch.

Aldrich said they should impound some of the vehicles. **Carr** stated put a rumble strip at 33rd Street to stop them. *Sharp* responded he had discussed this with the business association but they didn't like the idea due to wear and tear to large vehicles. **Carr** asked if it is an approved road for commercial trucks. *Sharp* said he would think so.

*******Action:** Receive and file

4. **Fire Department Report**

Officer Ken Ast said to date there had been 17 fires in District VI. Ten fires that were accidental and four were started. There were three homes with structural damage some due to fireworks with \$80,000 worth of damages. **Schreck** said he was concerned because at station 13 the Quint truck was gone and on the same day he knew that five stations did not have vehicles in service. *Ast* responded he knew station 13 answered more medical calls than the others. We are trying to do what we can with the personnel we have. We have been approved to hire 18 more officers; we were hoping it would be for 24. **Schreck** asked if this would come from grant money and said he had signed up for the Citizens Fire Academy.

*******Action:** Receive and file

New Business

5. **Sanitary Sewer project to serve part of Lots 14 & 15 of the Walnut Grove Addition (Located on W 35th St N, west of Arkansas)**

Shawn Mellies, Public Works presented background on the project that would provide sanitary sewer to a developed residential area. He included they would also need to rebuild the existing manhole and that the total cost of the project would be split between the two properties and not by sq. ft.

Foster asked about the Sewer Plant Equity Fee what does this do and why the charge. *Mellies* responded this is a request of the applicant and it allows for any additional costs for certain items in the area.

Aldrich asked when you have to pay the Sewer Plant Equity Fee what is the purpose of also paying taxes. *Mellies* responded this is a one-time sewer/water fee.

Randleas asked how you determine when the property doesn't have sewer. I live next door to the person who wants sewer even though his septic tank is functioning. It is not fair the other resident has to pay when they don't

want the sewer service. **Randleas** continued saying to tell us that our septic systems are going to fail, I don't like how the City treats us and they take advantage of people who don't understand. I won't vote for this.

Foster stated septic tanks always fail it's just a matter of time. They are designed that way.

Schreck included that if it does fail the septic can't be replaced, you have to connect to city sewer.

Mellies said that KDHE would have to look at certain requirements for replacing to another septic. This does not happen often.

Casey Richwind, 1301 W. 35th asked how would you feel if someone asked you to pay \$1000, even though your septic system was still working. My grandmother can't afford to pay this and where is she to come up with the money. Will she lose her house if she can't pay? **Mellies** included she could qualify for a low-income deferral loan. Richwind said she has lived in this house for 30 years and feels safe there. My parents pay her taxes. Just because this person wants sewer we are going through this. My grandmother can't afford it.

Aldrich asked how many properties were involved. **Mellies** responded because there are two resident owners in the property that wants the sewer; State Statute allows them the higher percentage of ownership. **Aldrich** included that when a person is on a fixed income this is a problem. Can't council defer the request?

Carr asked why two people don't have to pay more for the assessment. **Randleas** asked why the sewer can't be put in just for these people and they pay for what they want. Then you could just install the connection for the other property but they wouldn't be charged until they actually need the sewer service.

Wine stated this had happened to me. The sewer service was there when I needed it. We pay taxes for our sewer every month in part so new developers can build in other areas.

Carr included that if the line was already installed and her system failed she could then hook up at a later date but not be required to do it now.

Wine included this petition was allowed under State requirements and is a valid petition. DAB doesn't have control over this.

Richwind said the house is almost over 100 years old and it doesn't make sense to do this.

Randleas asked if this person could get the sewer on his own. **Mellies** responded this was the most economical way to do the sewer.

***** **Action:** The District VI Advisory Board made a motion to recommend to City Council to NOT APPROVE (**Schreck/Aldrich 9-1 Wine**) the petition. History shows one person could hook-up based on the info from the neighborhood. This is an unjust financial burden to the property owner. DAB VI wants Council to know they understand this is the way state law is written but feels this is unjust.

Board Agenda

6. Problem Properties

No problem properties were submitted.

*******Action:** Receive and propose appropriate action.

7. Neighborhood Reports

Moorings: Had a problem with a stray cat running loose. We found out you can lease a cage from Animal control so you can capture the loose animal and then they will come pick it up.

Benjamin Hills Neighborhood: Thanks to the City of Wichita for their annual clean-up. We used seven (7) skids and 2 ½ packer trucks and collected over 200 tires.

Sherwood Glen: Will hold a Garage Sale this coming weekend.

Old Town Farmers Market: Opens this Saturday from 7 am-Noon.

Anti-Graffiti Taskforce: Has finished the anti-graffiti color book and is available on the Police website to download. Printed copies will be available soon at the Neighborhood City Halls.

*******Action:** Receive and file.

Updates from the council member

None

Announcements

- Next DAB meeting will be on Monday, June 1, 2009

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Guests

A. Basham	1634 Coolidge 67203
Tom Carr	1027 W River Blvd 67203
Sally & Gabe Nixon	3430 N. Coolidge 67204
Norma Harris	2308 Shelton 67204
Casey Richwine	on Behalf of Carmen Turner 1301 W. 35 th St. N 67204
Jerry Prichard	1607 N. Clarence
G. Boyajian	3325 W. 9 th
Dan Ochs	1717 W. 33 rd St. N.
Bruce Simkins	502 W. 42 nd St. N. 67204
Sharon Powell Quincy	1420 Garland 67203 Squincy@Cox.Net

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant